

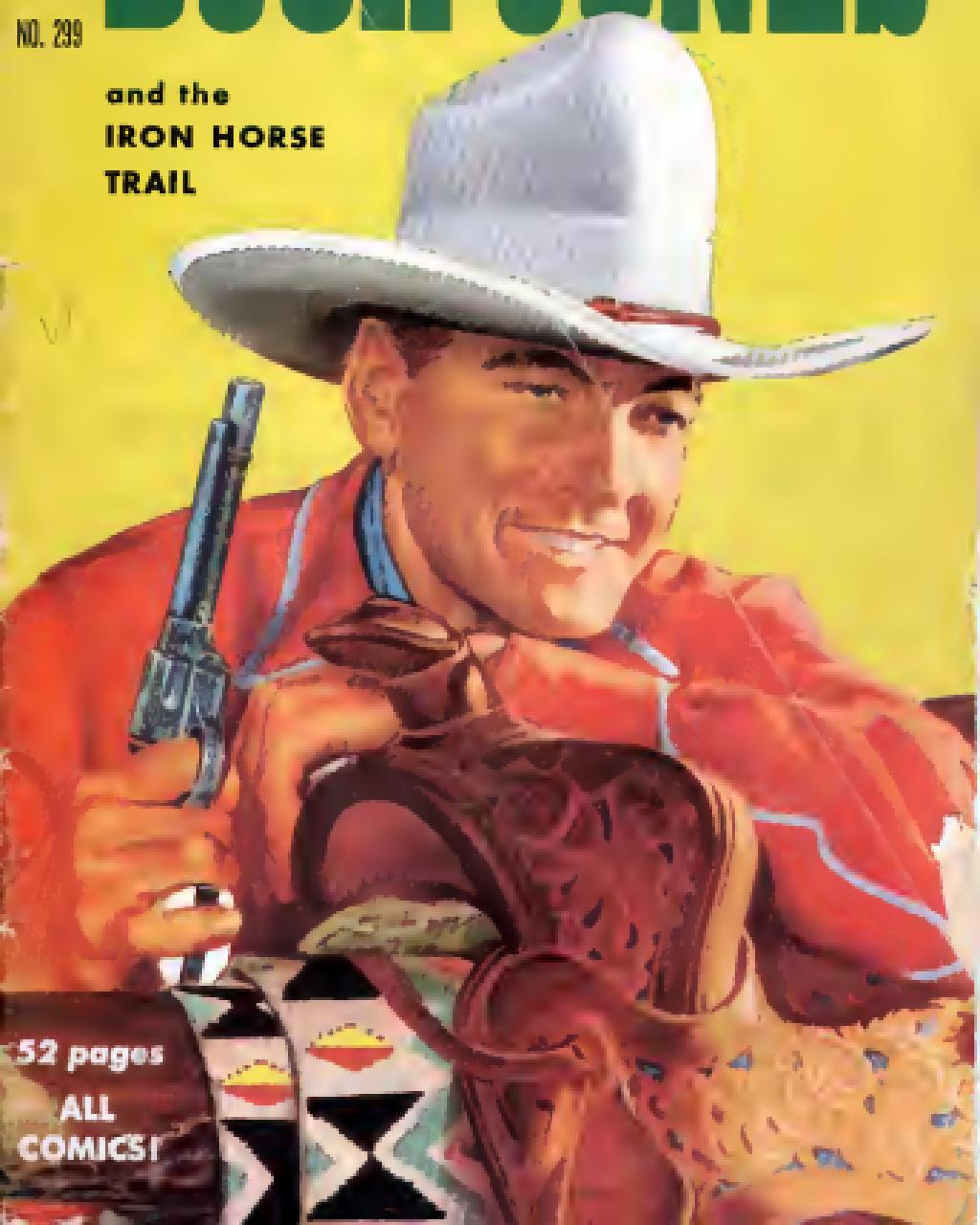
BELL  
A DELL COMIC

10¢

NO. 299

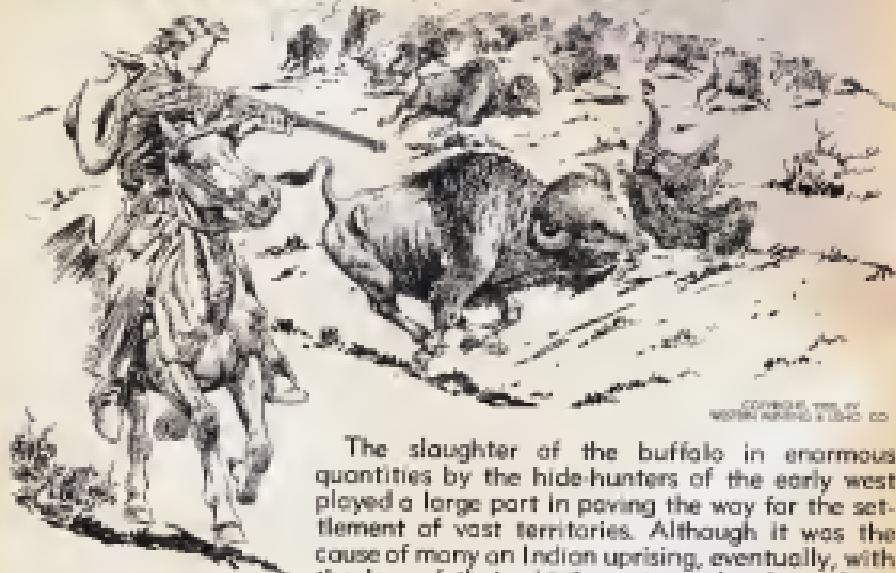
# BUCK JONES

and the  
IRON HORSE  
TRAIL



52 pages  
ALL  
COMICS!

# WINNING THE WEST



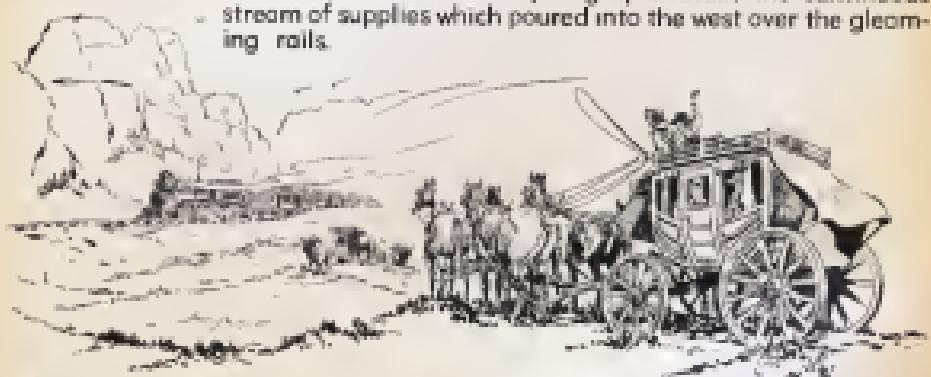
WINNING THE WEST

The slaughter of the buffalo in enormous quantities by the hide-hunters of the early west played a large part in paving the way for the settlement of vast territories. Although it was the cause of many an Indian uprising, eventually, with the loss of their chief meat supply, the redmen were scattered and subdued.

In addition, huge tracts of grazing land were opened up where cowmen could move in and be sure of finding sufficient feed for their ever-increasing beef herds.

The stagecoaches and then the railroad brought new hordes of settlers who further reduced the rapidly vanishing buffalo. With each mile of rails, new frontiers were opened to ranchers who found a market in the east for their cattle.

Cities could not have sprung up without the continuous stream of supplies which poured into the west over the gleaming rails.



# BUCK JONES

and his  
"IRON HORSE  
TRAIL"

10 MILES EAST OF JUNCTION CITY WHERE  
THE RAILROAD WINDS THROUGH COLO MESA...

HMM, THE OLD IRON HORSE AIN'T  
IN SIGHT YET! SURE HOPE SHE  
DON'T GET HURT BECAUSE  
THE FOUR-E'S GONE!

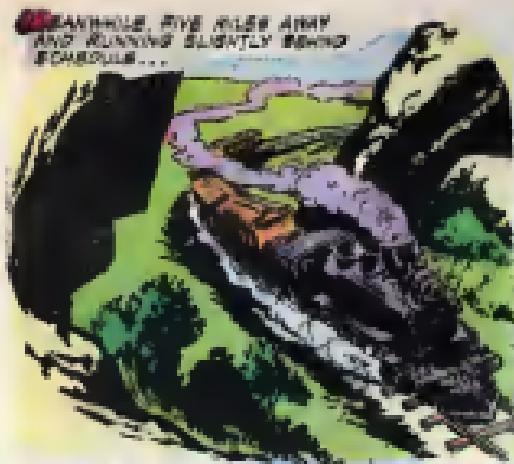
WONDER WHY BUCK  
KABEL IS SO DOWDING  
SET ON HOLDIN' HER  
UP TODAY?

WELL, BOYS, PEARLS  
LIKES WE GOT HERE  
IN TIME! NO IRON  
OR 'N TRAIN YET!

THERE'S ZACH AT  
THE OUTLOOK POINT  
NOW! SIGNAL FOR HIM  
TO COME DOWN!

NOW REMEMBER TH  
RAILROAD PRESIDENT'S  
OWN PRIVATE CAR IS  
ON THIS RUN! I DON'T  
WANT HIM TO EVER  
FORGET THIS RAID!

HMM, DON'T WORRY  
BUCK! HE WON'T  
FORGET IT...  
HE LIVES!





YOU SURE DON'T  
LOOK LIKE AN OUTLAW  
TO ME, SABE!

WELL, I ANT' I WAS  
FALSELY ACCUSED O  
ROBBIN A STAGE BETWEEN  
NUGGET FLATS AN JUNCTION CITY!

I MANGED TO  
GET OUT WITH MY  
WHOLE SKIN I ANT'  
NEVER DARED GO  
BACK 'CAUSE TH'  
GANG OLD ROTTEN  
GANG CENTRAL CITY  
FOLKED ME...

BUT WHAT BRINGS  
YOU BACK NOW?  
ARENT YOU TAKIN'  
A BIG CHANCE?

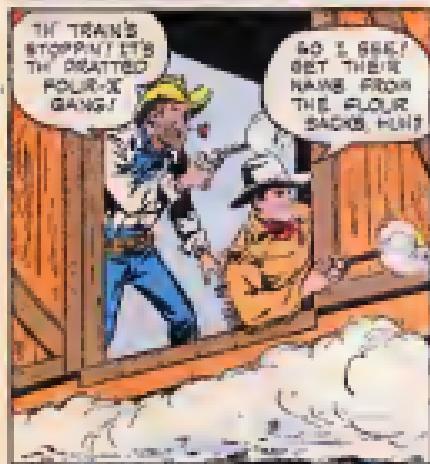
YEAH, BUT  
I GOTTA  
GO BACK!

I HEARD MY ONLY SON, TAD,  
HAS THROWN IN WITH TH' OUTLAW,  
SHEMANTY PEOPLE ARE SAYIN'...  
THE FATHER, LIKE SON, I GOTTA  
FIND OUT WHAT TH' BICKENS  
POSSESSES TH' LADY!

BLAM!  
BLAM!

WHAT  
THAT?

UM-CHI SOUNDS  
LIKE ANOTHER  
RAID ON TH  
BLASTED  
RAILROAD!











THAT'S JEST TH' ENGINEER, LATCHIN' ONTO THIS RITEY PARLOR CAR, FOLKS! UH JAM I INTERFERIN' SOMETHIN'?

NO! COME ON, N. SAGE!

I...ER, SORRY...  
...ER, THE CAR  
LURCHED AND...  
THAT FOOL  
ENGINEER!



BUCK, WHAT  
ARE YOUR  
IMMEDIATE  
PLANS IN  
JUNCTION CITY?

I'M PICKING UP SOME  
FREIGHTS BEING TO TAKE  
BACK TO SAN CARLOS.  
A FRIEND OF MINE, MANN  
CORNIN, IS DELIVERIN'  
THEM TO THE RAILROAD.

RAIN CORNING WELL, WELL,  
MELISSA'S GOING TO VISIT  
HER DAUGHTER AT THEIR  
RANCH THIS SUMMER!



THAT'S FAR ENOUGH,  
THANKS! IT'S A WONDER  
THAT CRAZY ENGINEER  
DON'T RAVAGE EVERYTHING  
IN HERE!

ROCKY FORTY  
PLANNER, MANNIN'  
YEH, PLAY IT?

DON'T ENCOURAGE HER!  
SHE THINK SHE'S A SINGER!  
I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TROUBLES  
BUT NOW MY DAUGHTER HAS  
STAGE AMBITIONS!





LATER

HUMPH! WONDER WHAT  
HAPPENED TO THE BEEF  
RAIN CORSON WAS TO  
DELIVER HERE?

JUNCTION  
CITY

BY GOLLY THESE FEWS  
IS AS EMPTY AS MOTHER  
HUBBARD'S CUPBOARD  
AFTER A WINDSTORM!

LET'S ASK THAT INDIAN IF  
HE KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED

THAT'S OL'  
ROLLIN' THUNDER!  
IF HE DON'T  
RECOGNIZE ME IN THIS BEARD,  
NOBODY WILL!

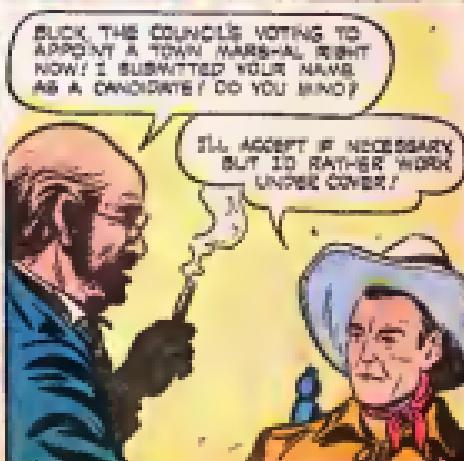
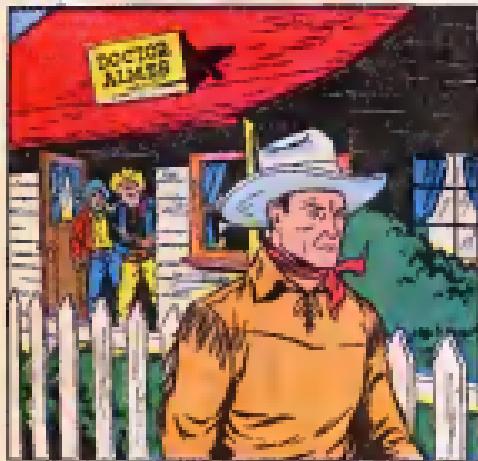
HORNY  
BROTHER!

HOW  
STRANGER!

UH, MY FRIEND WAS  
SUPPOSED T' HAVE SOME  
CATTLE DELIVERED HERE  
BY RAIN CORSON.  
SAYIN' WHAT  
HAPPENED  
T' THEM?

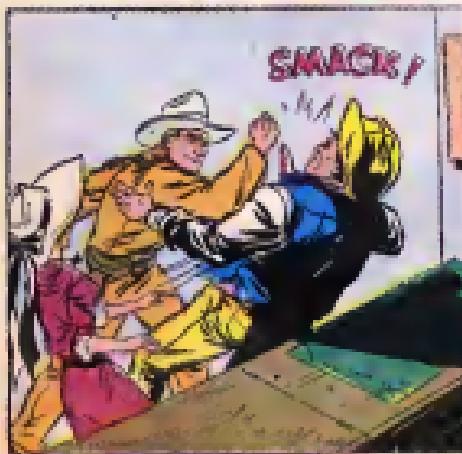
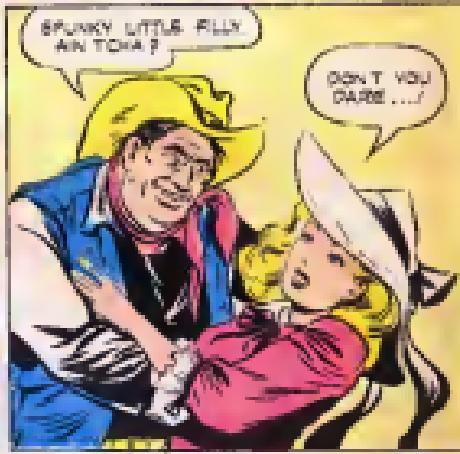
HEH! OUTLAW  
RUN HERD OFF  
RAILROAD! RAILROAD  
NOT SAFE! RAILROAD  
BAD MEXICAN!

NO WONDER DODGE IS  
WORRIED! THE OUTLAWS  
EVEN ATTACK HERDS  
BEFORE THEY REACH  
THE RAILROAD!



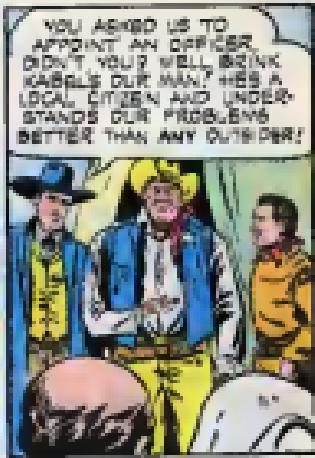
MEANWHILE, DOWNSTAIRS...











THE JOB IS YOURS  
AND I'M PROUD TO  
HAVE YOU ON MY  
SIDE! BUT WHAT  
ABOUT BRINK'S  
WARNING?

LET ME WORRY ABOUT  
THAT! IF HE AND  
HIS PALS AREN'T  
MEMBERS OF THE  
FOUR-X GANG, I'LL  
BUY YOU A NEW  
HEAD-LICK!

I'M GOING TO HAVE A  
TALK WITH MORGAN!  
MAYBE WE'LL GET A LEAD!

IT'S A HUNCH  
HE ENGINEERED  
BRINK'S APPOINTMENT!

SH MORGAN  
WE — THE NIGHT  
LINE

MORGAN, I WANT  
A TICKET ON THE  
STAGE FOR MY  
DAUGHTER. SHE'S  
GOING TO VISIT  
THE CORSON RANCH!

RIGHT! THIS TOWN IS  
NO PLACE FOR A NICE  
GIRL LIKE HER AT  
LEAST UNTIL KABEL  
BRINGS US LAW  
AND ORDER!

HUH? BY  
THE WAY HOW'S  
YOUR BUSINESS?

CANT COMPANION HATE  
TO SEAS TO MY  
COMPETITOR, BUT  
PEOPLES ARE STILL  
USING THE STAGE  
BETWEEN HERE AND  
SAN CARLOS!

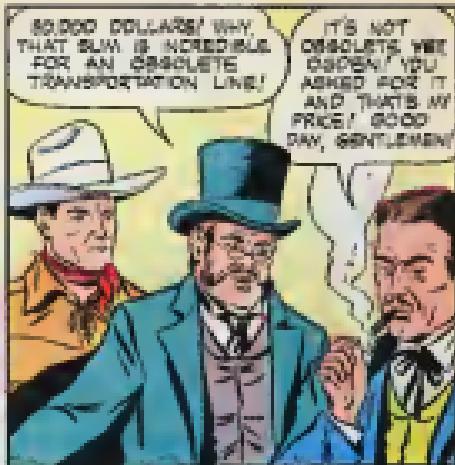
YOU'RE NOT JUST  
SATISFIED WITH HANGING  
EVERYTHING WEST OF HERE  
THAT ISN'T SERVICED BY  
THE RAILROAD, HUH?

WHY SHOULD  
I GIVE WAY TO  
THE RAILROAD  
ANYWHERE?  
FROM WHAT I  
HEAR, MY STAGE  
LINE IS SAFER!

LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!  
I'D LIKE TO BUY OUT THE  
EASTERN SECTION OF YOUR  
LINE THAT CONFLICTS  
WITH MY RAILROAD!

I HAVEN'T  
DECIDED TO  
SELL...YET!





ONE HOUR LATER, AS  
THE SUN IS SETTING...



NAMIN, THAT BRINK  
AND HIS MEN ARE  
THE FOUR-EYE GANG!  
I'LL NEED TIME  
TO PROVE IT!

THESE HE IS  
NOW! I'LL MAKE  
IT SHORT AND  
SWEET!



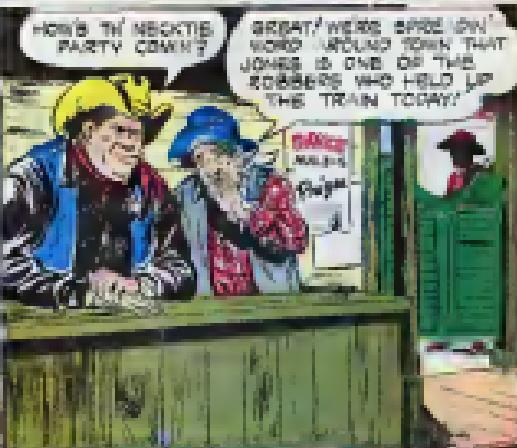
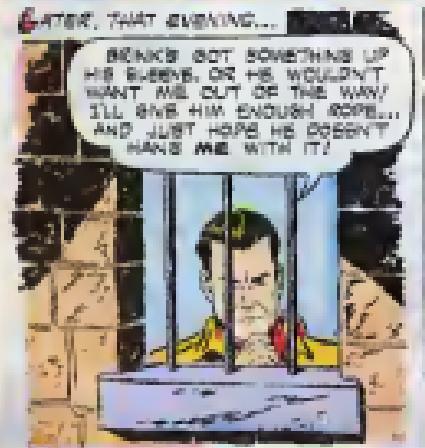
I GAVE YUH TWO  
HOURS TO GET OUTA  
TOWN, JONES! TIMES UP!

YOU DON'T  
KNOW?



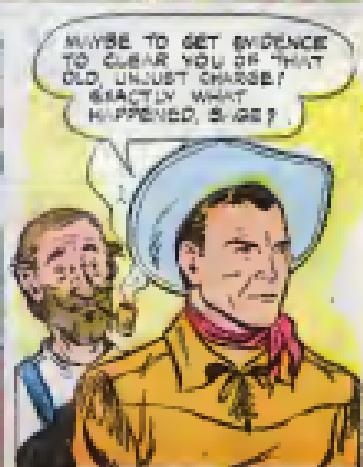
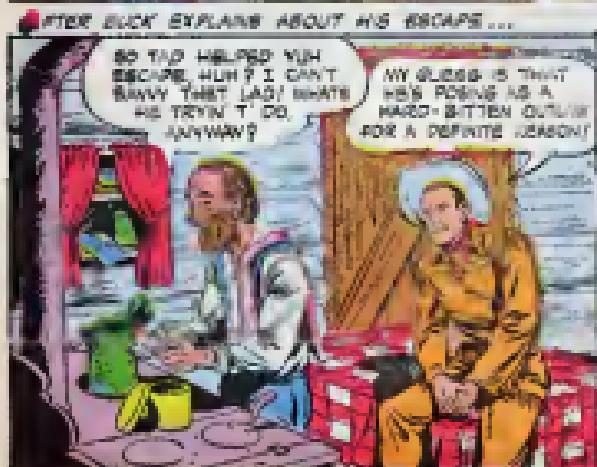
TAKE 'EM TO TH' HOOSER SOON  
AN' THROW 'EM IN THE JAIL,  
DEPUTIES! I'LL SHOW 'EM  
WHO'S RUNNIN' THIS TOWN!

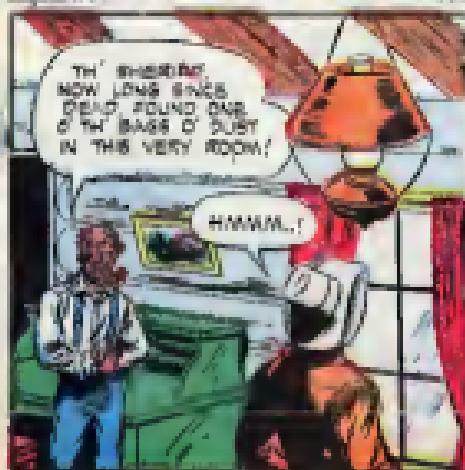
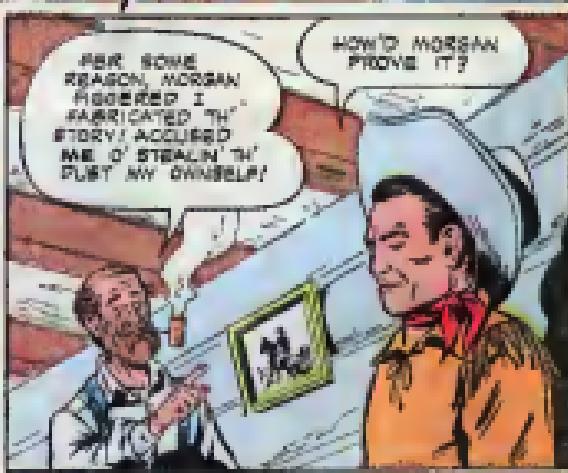
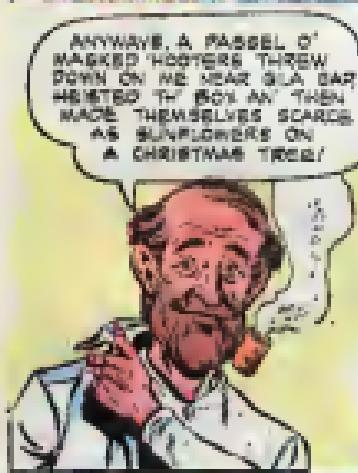


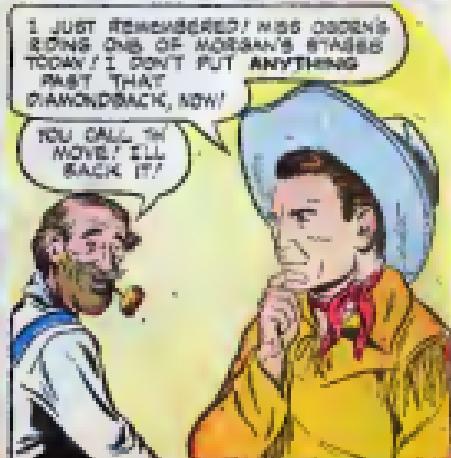












BUCK JONES IS TRYIN'  
LEADS STRAIGHT TO  
THE OLD HOT-CHAKIES  
SPREAD!

AIN'T NOBODY LIVED  
HERS SINCE SAGE  
FLUNG TH' COOP AN'  
YOUNG TAD THREW  
IN WITH US!

COME ON OUT,  
JONES! WE GOT  
YOU DEAD TO  
RIGHTS THIS  
TIME!

I SMELL  
COFFEE!  
SOMEBOPT'S  
AROUND!

YEAH, HEROES  
TH' COFFEE  
A-BOILIN'.

WE'RE TOO LATE,  
BOY! JONES AND  
ANOTHER JASPER ARE  
FOGGIN' IT WEST!

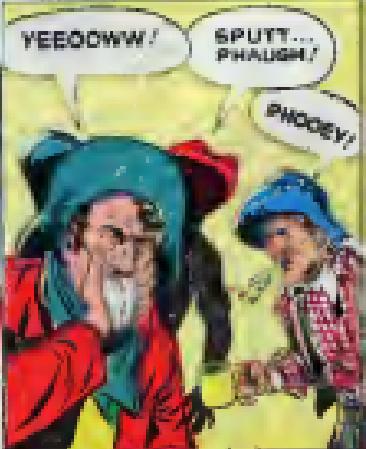
WE AIN'T GOT TIME  
TO GIVE CHASE! WE'RE  
DU TO INTERCEPT  
THE STAGE BEFORE IT  
GETS TO ALISTIN'S  
RELAY STATION!

MAIGHT AS WELL HAVE A  
CUP O' COFFEE BEFORE WE GO.

WONDER WHO THIS  
GALOOT IS HIDIN'  
AWAY WITH JONES?

YEEOOWW!  
SPUTT...  
PHLAUSH!

PHOOEY!





LATER...

IF YU'RE SO CONCERNED  
WORRIED 'BOUT TH' PEGGY  
GAL, WELL, MEET TH'  
STAGE HERE AT AUSTIN  
RELAY STATION!

HOPE WE  
DON'T MISS IT!

THIS IS WHERE  
TH' DRIVER

CHANGES HORSES  
FOR FRESH ones!

LOOKS LIKE  
THE STAGE  
COWNS NOW.  
WE CAN FOLLOW  
IT TO THE  
CORSON RANCH!

REMEMBER, TAD.  
KEEP YER MOUTH  
FLUNG SHUT ABOUT  
WHAT HAPPENED TO  
OUR ONLY PASSENGER!

WELL, REBECCA  
ISN'T ON THIS  
STAGE!

BING, THE TEAM  
TO THE CORRAL,  
DRIVER!

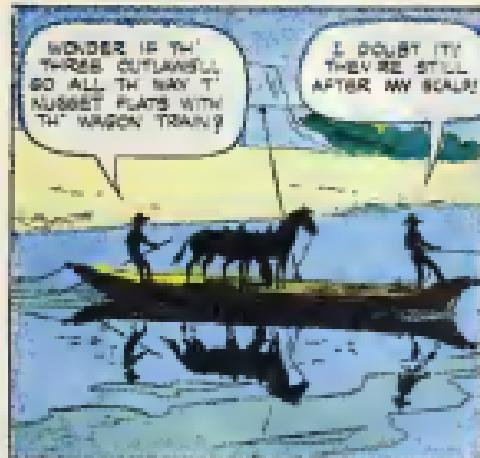
EASY THERE,  
DAD—BLAME IT/  
WHOA!

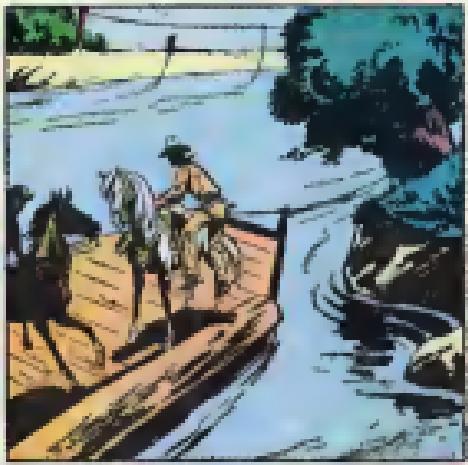
SHH! SAY  
NUTHIN', DAD,  
TILL WE GET  
INSIDE!



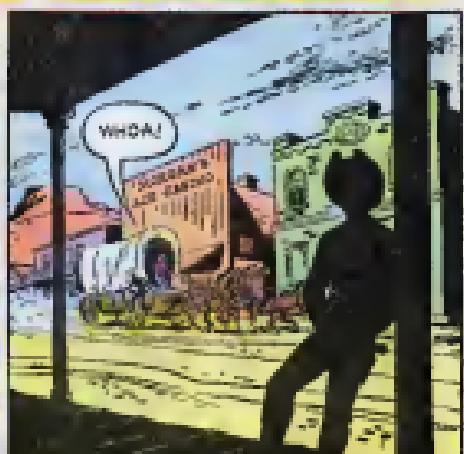


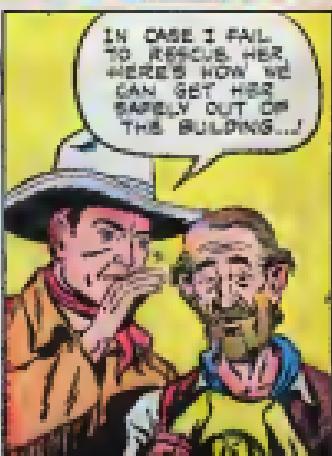












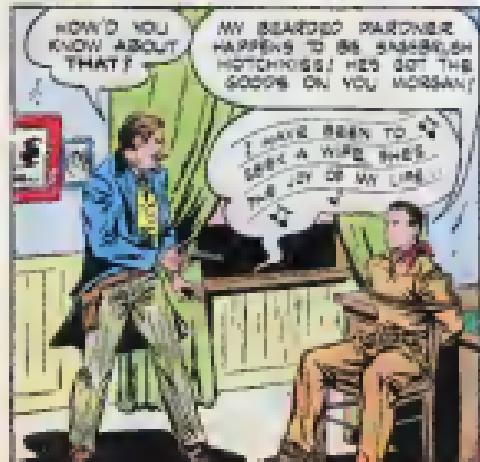


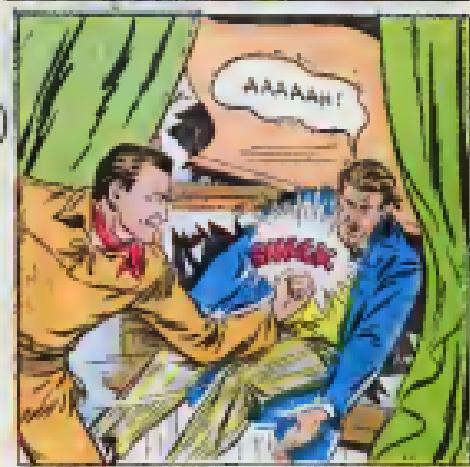
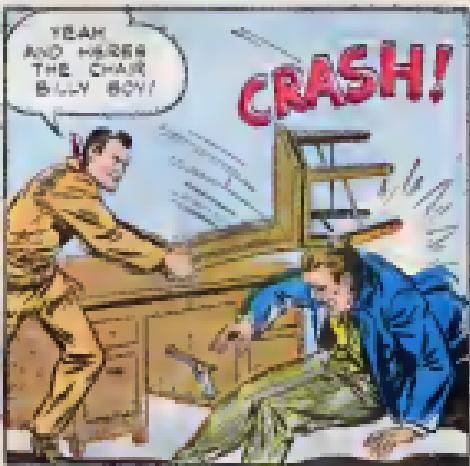






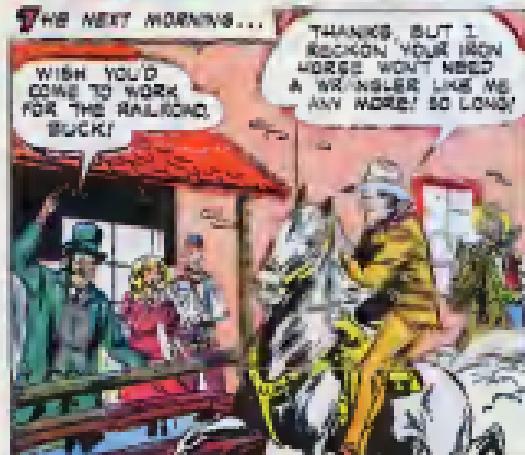








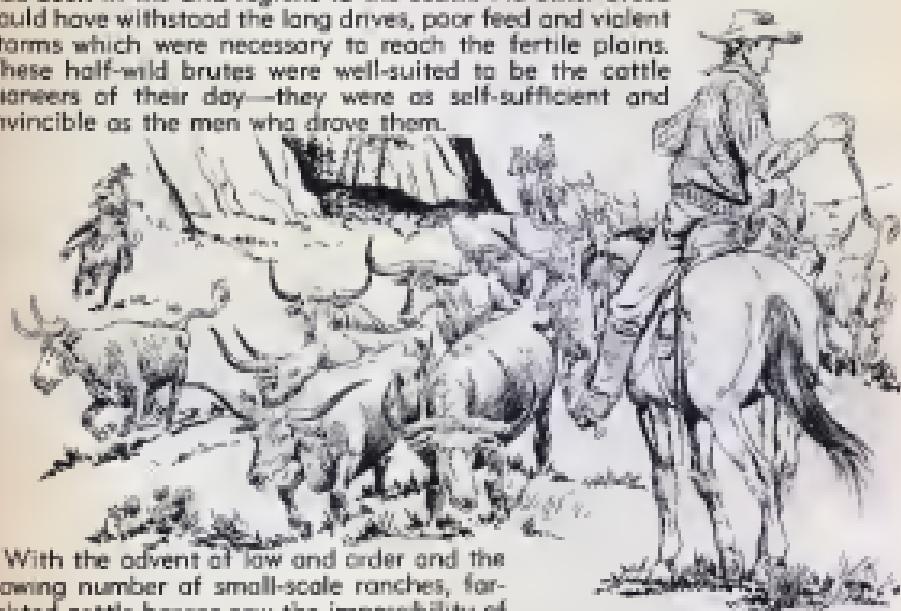




# WINNING THE WEST...

Soon the level grassy plains were dotted with grazing herds of longhorns—the rangy, tough cattle whose origin had been in the arid regions to the south. No other breed could have withstood the long drives, poor feed and violent storms which were necessary to reach the fertile plains. These half-wild brutes were well-suited to be the cattle pioneers of their day—they were as self-sufficient and invincible as the men who drove them.

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With the advent of law and order and the growing number of small-scale ranches, farsighted cattle barons saw the impossibility of ranging their original, immense herds across lands which were already being cut up into small farms. Previously-free grazing land was fast being criss-crossed by barb wire fences.

So they reduced the size of their herds and began to improve the quality of the beef—since they were now primarily interested in weight rather than numbers in their herds.

Importing corn-fed stock from the east, they crossed it with their own long-horned variety. Partly then through trial and error, and partly through good "cow sense" and selective breeding, they achieved the first of the heavy, hardy, short horns. These were the cattle which provided the basis for many of the thriving herds which even now furnish

much of the beef on our tables.

